



# Utility/Marketer Partnerships in New York State

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# Outline

- Overview of the Challenge and Value Proposition
- Considerations in developing partnerships
- Partnerships in New York State
- Focus on three:
  - NYSEG
  - ConEdison Solutions
  - Niagara Mohawk
- Results
- Marketing Support provided by NYSERDA

# *Overview of the Challenge:*

- Combining the strengths and interests of the green marketer with those of the utility and to ignite customer demand for wind energy
  - After the first year, customers in New York State are supporting over 24 MW's of wind capacity
- CEI goal is to generate the demand that enables the construction of new wind farms in NYS

# *Utility Perspective: Why do a program?*

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- Improve Customer Satisfaction
- Enhanced brand identity (innovative, environmental leadership, customer focused)
- Gain experience with little cost or risk
  - Promote development of renewable energy
- Obtain positive PR
- Earn Regulatory/political benefits

# *Why work with a utility?*

- CEI Mission Statement:
  - **Ignite the market and develop new wind resources**
- Utility have excellent reputation for service and reliability
- Utility has excellent access to customers
- Utility partnership program creates excitement in the market

# *What CEI brings to the partnership*

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- NATIONAL EXPERTISE
  - Market Research
  - Environmental Community Acceptance
  - Product Positioning and Pricing
  - Tailored Messages
  - Material Development
  - Corporate Sales Process
- Flexible Approach

# *Partnership Challenges*

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- Different Corporate Culture
  - Large versus small organization
- Different Overall missions and agenda
  - Small part of a utility's focus; CEI main focus
  - Utility values and is protective of its brand
- Regulatory issues: How is this viewed?
- Integrating sales staff
- Back office capabilities

# *Brand: Comparison and Linkage*

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- **Utility Identity:** Large, Reliable, Reputable, Credit Worthy, Stable, May Not have strong environmental reputation
- **Community Energy Identity:** Green & focused, Entrepreneurial, Small, Community Oriented, Reputable, Environmental credibility
- **CEI Brand supports Utility Brand:**  
Combined Brand Identity is greater than the sum of the parts!
  - Utility adds credibility to the product
  - CEI adds green
  - Green product adds to the utility image



# *Customer Purchases Drives New Wind Farms*

- Wind energy production cost exceeds the NYISO prices
- Residential and non residential purchases provide a revenue stream for the wind farm
- Additional Revenue supports the development of the significant wind resources in New York State



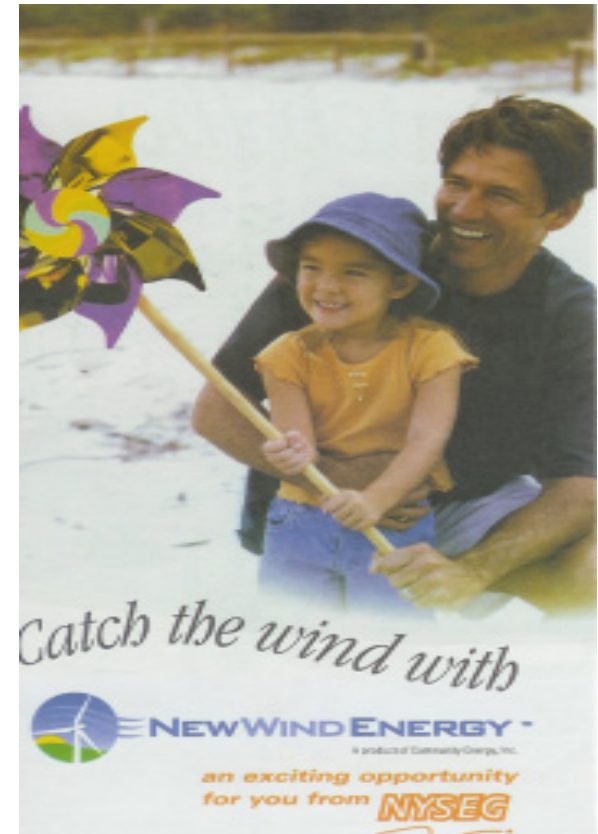
# *NYSEG/CEI Model*

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- True Partnership
  - Joint Supply Agreement
    - Share risk and reward
  - Shared Margins
  - Coordinated Marketing and Pricing
  - Co Branding of program and product
  - Shared marketing materials and Joint Sales Calls
  - Targeting of all customer segments
    - Non Residential customers are an important segment

# *NYSEG Model Allows Flexible Plan*

- Bill Inserts
- Radio Ads, Press events
- Home Shows,
- Community events and fairs
- Press Events
- Cooperative Marketing Programs
- Program design includes all customers





# Upstate NY Customers



## Government

- GSA Federal Office Buildings in Binghamton and Utica
- Village of Croton on the Hudson
- Village of Newcastle
- Village of Woodstock



## Corporate

- G. W. Lisk
- Sealing Devices
- Penguin Putnam Inc.
- Husky Injection Molding
- Mohawk Paper



## Small Business

- GreenStar Food Cooperative
- Snow Lion Publications
- Tom's Gifts Binghamton
- Plainsville Turkey Farms
- Wagner's Winery



## Universities and Colleges

- Hobart and William Smith Colleges
- University of Buffalo
- Union College





# *ConEdison Solutions Program*

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- ConEdison Solutions is an ESCO operating primarily in the Con Edison and O & R territories
- Competitive Supplier Partnership
  - Co Marketing agreement
  - Close to the NYSEG Model
  - ESCO's are more focused on C & I customers
- Dual marketing approach
  - Focus on wind product for existing customers
  - Focus on wind energy as a switching tool

# *Program Details*

- Program started during the summer
- Primary focus was Commercial and Institutions; Potential commodity savings used to offset wind premium
- 20,000 MWh of NewWind® under contract within 5 months
- Formal program launch in November





# *Niagara Mohawk Program*

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- Open Program approach
  - Renewable program required by merger
  - Open to all registered environmental ESCO's
    - 3 Competitors year 1, 4 competitors in year 2
  - Niagara Mohawk promotes program not participants or products
  - Not a partnership: no shared margins, marketing message, etc.

# *Niagara Mohawk Program Features*

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- Niagara Mohawk handles billing and receivables
  - Green Marketers are free to offer any product:
    - Wind, hydro, bio-energy, etc.
    - Wind is the most expensive renewable but the only one that can be developed with customer support
  - Customer purchases show preference for wind but are sensitive to price



# *NYS Results: Ignited Demand!*

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- Three major programs were launched in the state. NewWind Energy® available Statewide!
- Within the first 6 months of the program green marketing was supporting over 12 MW's of capacity compared to the first year goal of 10 MW's
- Current goal is to support an additional 25MW's
- In 2004 marketing program will require new wind capacity!

# *Why CEI Partnerships work?*

- CEI develops flexible “wind” partnerships
  - Best results are partners that:
    - endorse concept that new regional wind farms are assets
    - have a genuine interest in providing customers a wind energy option
- CEI does not compete for utility or ESCO customers;
- ESCO’s can focus on growth, utility’s can focus on customer relationship
- Utility brand and sales channels enable cost effective approach to all classes of customers.
  - On the bill feature important for product credibility and customer convenience